



# Intimate Care Policy

- Effective: September 2023
  - Review by: September 2026
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## Background

The policy has been developed within the context of current legislation, policy and guidelines as well as with our values.

## Rational

There are times when children need help with toileting and changing clothes at school. This policy provides clear guidelines for providing the intimate care of children. These guidelines are designed to promote good practice and safeguard children and practitioners.

## Aims

- To include all children in activities regardless of their ability to manage their own personal care
- To safeguard the rights and promote the welfare of children
- To provide guidance for staff
- To reassure parents

## Definitions

### Intimate care

“Care tasks of an intimate nature, associated with bodily functions, bodily products and personal hygiene, which demands direct or indirect contact with or exposure of sexual parts of the body”

These tasks include: dressing and undressing, helping to use the toilet, cleaning, wiping intimate parts of the body or applying medical cream.

## Personal Care

“Although it may not involve touching another person, it is less intimate and usually has the function of helping with personal presentation”

Tasks include: Feeding, medication, hair, dressing, washing and prompting and supervising going to the toilet.

## Our Approach

We encourage children to participate in their own intimate and personal care as an approach towards facilitating participation in daily life and develop their personal and physical skills.

All children have the right to be safe, feel comfortable and be treated with dignity and respect. Staff will be sensitive to individual needs.

## Procedures

Children who need support in cleaning their intimate areas will be changed in the privacy of the bathroom area with the door open. Staff will wear gloves, an apron and have the option of a mask. Where possible staff will be supervised by each other by sight or sound. Children will be asked to help change and if staff can help them too.

While changing underwear children will also need to be in the privacy of the bathroom area. For other clothing children can be changed elsewhere in the setting as long as the child feels comfortable. Children will be asked to help change and if staff can help them too.

Should staff observe any unusual markings, discoloration or swelling these will be reported to the DSL immediately.

If during the intimate care of a child a staff member accidentally hurts the child the child will be reassured and report to the DSL.

All staff working on site will hold a DBS and be up to date with Safeguarding Training.

## Permission to Provide Intimate Care

| Pupil's Personal Details |                    |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| Full Name:               |                    |
| Date of Birth:    /    / | Parent/Carer name: |
| Address:                 |                    |

I/We give permission for school to provide intimate care to my/our child.

I/We will advise the school of anything that may affect issues of personal care (if medication is changed or my child has an infection for example)

I//We understand the procedures that will be carried out and will contact the school immediately if there are any concerns.

Signature:

Name:

Relationship to child:

Date:

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**I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.**

Philippians 4:13

Page 3